

# How Important Are Street Numbers?

***Your Address Could Save Your Life!***

There are many important reasons that prominently displayed street numbers are valuable. The most important reason is that **your safety may depend on them.**

Every second is critical for emergency response personnel such as **Fire, Police and Ambulance.**

EMERGENCY RESPONSE MIGHT TAKE AS LONG AS IT TAKES TO READ THIS INFORMATION ABOUT STREET NUMBERS.

## WHY DO YOU NEED STREET NUMBERS?



Emergency personnel spend numerous hours training which include familiarizing themselves with streets, neighborhoods and recognizable features within their territories. There are numerous accounts of emergency responders being unable to locate an emergency because there was no address on the premises.

Emergency responders must make split second decisions. Guessing which building matches a description is not an effective means of locating a victim, patient, or property.

**Failure to display street addresses can result in:**

**Increased crime**

**Delayed emergency medical treatment**

**Increased property damage from fire**

## WHO SHOULD HAVE HOUSE NUMBERS?

As you well know by now, everyone needs street numbers. The Indiana Fire Prevention Code requires that all new and existing building have approved numbers on a contrasting background.

The Police, Fire and Ambulance services of the City of Bloomington and Monroe County strongly advise you to look at your house or business from the street and see if your numbers are clearly visible. Your life, or the life of a loved one might depend on it.

**IN THE TIME IT TOOK YOU TO READ THIS INFORMATION, YOUR HOUSE  
COULD BECOME WELL INVOLVED IN FIRE.**



## WHERE SHOULD STREET NUMBERS BE PLACED?

The Indiana Fire Prevention Code, as adopted by the City of Bloomington, requires, “**Premises Identification.** Approved numbers or addresses shall be placed on all new and existing buildings in such a position as to be plainly visible and legible from the street or road fronting the property. Said numbers shall contrast with their background.”

### General guidelines that should be followed are:

1. Black letters with reflective light colored backgrounds are preferred.
2. Numbers are to be a minimum of 4 inches tall.
3. Add one inch in height for every 25 feet of distance from the road over 50 feet.
4. If your house or business is over 150 feet from the street, numbers should be placed on a sign at the street.

For more information please contact us at:

**Bloomington Fire Department**

**P.O. Box 100**

**300 E. 4th St.**

**Bloomington, IN 47402**

**812-332-9763 (office hours 8am-5pm, M-F)**

**Please call 911 for all emergencies**